

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 10438 222104Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 EA-09 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-10 CIAE-00
INR-07 IO-14 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-07
OES-07 DODE-00 SS-15 SP-02 COME-00 TRSE-00 PM-04
H-02 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 /138 W
-----047081 230231Z /73

R 221808Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9264
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
ERDA WASHDC
ERDA GERMANTOWN

UNCLAS BONN 10438

USIAEA, USEEC
DEPT PASS NRC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, TECH, GW
SUBJECT: MEDIA AND INDUSTRIAL REACTION TO GERMAN
GOVERNMENT DECLARATION STOPPING EXPORT OF REPROCESSING
PLANTS

REF: BONN 10178 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: MEDIA AND NUCLEAR INDUSTRY COMMENT ON
THE RECENT FRG GOVERNMENT DECISION TEMPORARILY TO STOP
THE FURTHER SALE OF REPROCESSING TECHNOLOGY WAS VERY
NEUTRAL IN TONE AND INDICATED THAT SUCH A DECISION
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WOULD HAVE NO IMMEDIATE REPERCUSSIONS ON THE STATUS
OF THE GERMAN NUCLEAR INDUSTRY. END SUMMARY.

2. ON JUNE 19 KRAFTWERK UNION (KWU) GERMANY'S
LARGEST EXPORTER OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY, PUBLISHED A
STATEMENT THAT THE NEW POLICY WOULD HAVE NO IMMEDIATE
CONSEQUENCES BECAUSE THERE WAS NO POTENTIAL CUSTOMER

INTERESTED IN THE ACQUISITION OF A REPROCESSING PLANT AT THE PRESENT TIME. KWU EXPLAINED THAT ALL NATIONS WITH LARGE NUCLEAR PROGRAMS ALREADY HAD REPROCESSING PLANTS AND FOR THE OTHERS SUCH A FACILITY WOULD NOT BE LUCRATIVE. KWU EXPLICITLY WELCOMED THE GOVERNMENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT (SEPTTEL) THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT DECLARATION WERE NOT IRREVOCABLE.

3. NEWSPAPER REPORTS AGREE THAT THE CABINET DECISION CAME AS A SURPRISE TO EVERYONE AND THAT IT MUST HAVE BEEN WORKED OUT HURRIEDLY FOR THE FRENCH-GERMAN DISCUSSIONS OF JUNE 16-17. NEWSPAPERS NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT THE NUCLEAR EXPORT QUESTION RECEIVED VERY HIGH PRIORITY AFTER THE LAST FRENCH-GERMAN DISCUSSIONS.

4. "DIE WELT" OF JUNE 18 IS THE ONLY MAJOR PAPER TO CARRY SUBSTANTIAL COMMENT ON THE SUBJECT. IT OBSERVES THAT THE FRG GOVERNMENT HAS NOW GIVEN ITSELF "A PAUSE TO BREATHE" WHICH SHOULD BE USED FOR INCREASED INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATIONS. THE AUTHOR (HECK) ADMITS THAT THE GOVERNMENT DECISION WAS VERY SURPRISING, BUT CONCLUDES THAT A CLOSE LOOK BEHIND THE SCENERY WOULD MAKE IT NOT QUITE SO UNEXPECTED. THE DECLARATION IS INTERPRETED AS A "SIGN OF GOOD BEHAVIOR", BECAUSE IT HAS NO DIRECT CONSEQUENCES.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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